

0673-8910
Perk-Hen

25 July 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Request by []
for Access to OSS Documents

STATINTL

1. Upon receipt of [] letter to Mr. Thuermer, dated 23 July 1973, I called [] to advise that appropriate representatives of the Agency would be happy to meet with him to work out details of the review, identify the documents in question, discuss ground rules for the review, etc. I advised [] that it would be necessary to confirm his clearance(*) level before this meeting could take place and told him that hopefully we would be able to meet during the week of 30 July.

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2. [] reiterated his previous statements to Mr. Thuermer that this was to be a low-key, scholarly work and that he was seeking to avoid sensationalism.

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[]
Special Assistant for Information Control

(*) I was later advised by the Office of Security that [] is the possessor of Top Secret clearance which was updated in 1970.

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cc:

[] STATINTL

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Mr. Angus Thuermer, Esquire
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Thuermer:

Reference our telephone conversation of this afternoon, I am seeking the assistance of the Central Intelligence Agency's files to supplement my personal papers in re-constructing the activities of the Office of Strategic Services in China and French Indochina during the period April - October, 1945.

At the suggestion of the staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Office of the Chief of Military History, Department of the Army, I have undertaken to write a scholarly book on the causes, origin, and lessons related to the Vietnam conflict. Thus far I have covered the period from my initial assignment to the OSS by General Donovan, his personal charge to me regarding Indochina, my relations with the French and Chinese authorities in Kunming and Chungking, and the period August 22 to September 30, 1945 in Hanoi. What I am particularly concerned with at this time are reports, correspondence, and directives pertaining to this period which may contribute materially to the concise recording of the actions taken by the United States representatives.

It is my purpose to use whatever material is available from the agency, together with material currently available to me from the Department of State, the National Archives, and the Department of the Army, to put together a factual, nonpartisan account within the scope of the recent Executive Order concerning declassification of classified information. In this connection it may be useful for you to know that I have a current active Top Secret clearance with the Executive Office of the President.

Anticipating an early reply,

Sincerely yours,

STATINTL

24 JUL 1947